

Honolulu Star-Bulletin

RILEY H. ALLEN

EDITOR

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1914.

Drudgery is as necessary to call out the treasures of the mind, as harrowing and planting those of the earth.—Margaret Fuller.

THE TERRITORIAL ROAD THEORY.

The wisdom of the territorial road scheme proposed by the Civic Convention is open to question—not so much because of its theory as because practical experience has shown the difficulty of dividing road construction responsibilities between the territory and the counties and achieving effective results.

The belt-road construction plan evolved in 1911 and put into operation shortly after the legislative session of that year was splendid in theory and unfortunate in practice. Some good roads and some bad roads were built under this system and in almost every instance the cost was greater than it would have been if the authority had been put under an efficient county organization.

The faults in the belt-road plan of 1911 were soon discovered by the loan-fund commission for Oahu, created to look after expenditures under the special loan-fund. Road construction was the biggest item entrusted to the responsibility of these commissions, the building of schoolhouses and courthouses being of minor financial importance.

To look after its road-construction, the commission had to create an entire organization, separate and apart from the county engineering organization or the department of public works. Overhead expenses at once began to mount. Nor was the new plan a convenient way of doing business. The five members of the Oahu commission included the mayor and the chairman of the city streets committee, serving ex-officio, the superintendent of public works, serving ex-officio, and two members appointed at large by the governor. From the beginning difficulties were met in transacting routine business in a businesslike way. Yards and yards of red tape surrounded such simple matters as signing of contracts and filing of bonds. The new system soon proved itself cumbersome and unwieldy, and worst of all, it did not guarantee good road construction. Oahu has secured one fine stretch of road under this plan—the Kipapa Gulch-Waialua Hill highway—but the belt-road on windward Oahu, from one cause or another, not only cost the contractor a big sum, burying his profits out of sight, but has suffered under heavy traffic until today it is a mighty poor road to have cost \$16,000 a mile.

From the other islands reports came in that the new system proved costly and cumbersome and failed by far to build the amount of roads expected.

Such has been Hawaii's experience with a system of divided authority between the territory and the county in road construction. While the plan proposed at Wailuku is greatly different from the loan-fund plan, the fundamental feature of a division of authority between the territory and the county is similar. We do not say that the new plan is impracticable; we do say that the legislature should not adopt it without giving it the most careful thought.

If the counties are to be given the taxing power, as is suggested in political platforms and favored by experienced legislators, there will be less call for road construction at the expense of the territory. In any event, the plan for shifting responsibility for new roads to the territory is not a step toward building up county government in Hawaii.

In this territory each island is a county unto itself. The "state highway" idea, natural enough where a main-travelled road runs through county after county from one boundary of a state to the other, is not essentially applicable here. An insistence on efficient county government will do much to take Hawaii's road-building out of local politics—which is, after all, the basis of much of the territorial highway theory.

The ban suddenly placed on all wireless war news to Honolulu puts government interpretation of neutrality in a class by itself. Why news of the European war should not be sent to Hawaii by wireless surpasses ordinary understanding. There may be a reason but up to date it is successfully kept hidden.

Great Britain's purchase of 25,000 Missouri mules indicates that her military experts have perceived a plan of bombardment as effective as that from the German howitzers.

CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURES.

The opposition to the "paid runner" system in local politics is not opposition to the expenditure of campaign funds for legitimate purposes—it is opposition to a thinly-veiled system of influencing elections by the lavish use of money.

Whether a political worker is merely a headquarters clerk or a precinct tallyman, or whether he is the manager of the details of the campaign, if his services are legitimate there is nothing wrong in paying him an adequate remuneration. But the spending of thousands of dollars to induce the runners-for-revenue-only to get out into the precincts and "whoop it up" for this candidate or that party is not only money wastefully spent but money evilly spent. It takes no muck-taking opposition orator to assert that the political mixture used for campaign doses—a mixture of money and argument—has consisted of entirely too much money in proportion to the argument. There is no need for an opposition orator to allege this because the campaign managers themselves allege it. Two years ago when the county campaign was over the outcry against the "runner" system reached its height. Now with a new campaign beginning the question of "opening the barrel" again arises.

If the campaign managers have acuteness enough to discern the difference between legitimate expenses and those that even shade illegitimacy, and if they have backbone enough to stand out against the sort of politics that has to empty a barrel to fill a ballotbox, the question will be settled promptly and no good candidate's chances will be impaired.

The signs of the time mean, if they mean anything, that political parties and candidates have to present sound issues to the people through intelligent publicity or go down to defeat. A sane and systematic campaign of education and publicity will get more results now—and a hundred times more permanent results for the future—than all the coin-palming that ever induced the doubtful activity of a paid runner.

Maubeuge is a town in northern France, in the Department of Nord, about two miles from the Belgian frontier. As a fortress Maubeuge has an old enciente of bastion trace, which serves as the center of an important intrenched camp of 18 miles perimeter, constructed for the most part after the war of 1870, but since modernized and augmented. It is an important manufacturing center, with a population of approximately 15,000. The city was razed a number of times and was unsuccessfully besieged in 1814, but was compelled to capitulate after a vigorous resistance in the Hundred Days.

Russia is dealing in huge figures during this war. The Rome Tribuna, according to the Milan correspondent, informs its readers "from an authoritative Russian source" that Russia "actually has 6,000,000 men under arms and is in position to mobilize 4,000,000 more." The paper adds that Russia has actually not more than half a million men in contact with the Austrians in Galicia and as many more engaging the Germans in East Prussia, but that in Poland another 900,000 are advancing and that behind them come millions more to fill their places.

Until positive information comes that Field Marshal von Moltke has been removed, the report will continue to be in the class of the exceedingly doubtful. It is not at all plain that Germany's plans have gone awry except through a perhaps unexpected check on the Belgian border, due to the refusal of King Albert to allow the passage of the Teuton troops.

The taking of Jaluit will not be numbered among the brilliant military feats of the war. The Jaluit army, consisting of ten or twelve dark-skinned soldiers in brown tights and carrying antiquated rifles, evidently put up no desperate resistance.

None of the combatants are sending abroad for beer or for booze of any kind. The war offices know that if their armies are to be kept at the height of efficiency, they will have to let booze alone.

Antwerp is evidently succumbing to the now-famous German process of revision downward.

Suwalki naturally picked itself out for a German military stroll.

Letters OF THE WEEK

(The Star-Bulletin invites free and frank discussion in this column on all legitimate subjects of current interest. Communications are constantly received to which no signature is attached. This paper will treat as confidential signatures to letters if the writers so desire, but cannot give space for anonymous communications.)

THE TAKING OF JALUIT.

Honolulu, October 6, 1914.
Editor Honolulu Star-Bulletin.
Sir: Regarding the article in yesterday morning edition of the Advertiser—"Japanese take Marshall Islands, German Naval Base"—allow me to inform you that anybody knowing the circumstances must laugh at the wording of said article.

In Jaluit, which at its widest is 800 yards wide and which is the so-called seat of the government, lives a peaceful population of 22 white males and two females. The magnificent forts destroyed by the Japanese exist only in the mind of the Advertiser's informant. On the whole island of Jaluit there is not one single gun, of any description, leave alone a fort.

The captured arms and ammunition must be the rifles and cartridges of the native police force, which consists of 12 men who, besides the said arms, wear a pair of tights and a brown cap

of some military cut. As the article in the Advertiser might lead to, wrong conceptions concerning the importance of the capture of Jaluit, I take the liberty to send you the above lines, hoping that you will publish same in your valuable paper.

Respectfully yours,
GEO. BERDING,
Chief Officer, R. P. D. Staatssekretär

Kraetke.
P. S.—You might add, that we left Jaluit for Honolulu about two months ago and that at the time of our departure only very little coal was left, which the governor of Jaluit is saving to roast Thanksgiving day turkey with.

A MISSING RELATIVE.

Honolulu, October 6, 1914.
Editor Honolulu Star-Bulletin.
Sir: The Thomas Pineapple Company is in receipt of a letter from Mrs. J. C. Teague, 621 27th street, Oakland, Cal., saying she is a niece of Mr. Charles Montgomery Thomas, and would like to hear from him. When last heard from he was in the employ of the government at Honolulu.

We hand you this thinking you might publish it.

Yours truly,
THE THOMAS PINEAPPLE CO., LTD.

LITTLE INTERVIEWS

—LESLIE C. THOMPSON: Did anyone say that a man cannot "come back"? There's the installment collector for instance.

—ROGER TAYLOR: I had a fine time while on a month's vacation. Next month should see increased activity in shipping at the port.

—M. H. DRUMMOND: I have made the painful discovery following the primaries that the ambitions of a lot of candidates, like the campaign cigar, go up in smoke.

—MAYOR J. J. FERN: While I was at Wailuku with the Ad Club I visited the spot where my old home used to be. I was sorry to see that the place has changed much since I last saw it.

—ALEXANDER HUME FORD: Over on Maui the people wondered why I carried a Hawaiian flag with me all the time. If I have my way about it, the Hawaiian flag will become the recognized standard of the South Pacific.

—H. GOODING FIELD: Up at Lahaina, Maui, I have secured a portion of the Pioneer hotel, which is to be used as the headquarters of the Hawaiian Tuna Club. When the club is well under way it is planned to make the old capital the headquarters of all tourists coming to the islands for the express purpose of game fishing.

—MERLE M. JOHNSON: When I proposed to the delegates at the convention that a subscription be taken up for a luau for the prisoners who decorated the armory, I got turned down. I was told that the Chamber of Commerce decorated the building. Anyway, it was a Maui chamber member who asked me to make that suggestion.

JUDGE J. M. MONSARRAT: The postponement of cases coming before the district court is a matter that lies entirely with the prosecuting officer and the attorney for the defendant. The charge that I have attempted to show leniency toward chauffeurs, made by the morning paper is unfounded. James Hughes, the defendant in question, alleged to have run down and wrecked a wheeled chair belonging to a crippled newspaper, is defended by Attorney Straus. I was informed by the prosecution that Straus was actually engaged in a trial before the circuit court and could not appear yesterday. The criticism is both unfair and unwarranted by perusal of the facts.

"A Trip to India" will be the subject of the illustrated lecture by Mr. J. F. Rock of the College of Hawaii at the Y. M. C. A. tomorrow evening. Mr. Rock has recently returned from a trip around the world, during which he traveled over 4000 miles in India. He has many beautiful pictures of the life of the people and of the scenery in the Himalaya mountains with which he will illustrate his address. The lecture is to be in Cooke hall and will commence at 8 o'clock.

Alexander Y. Sharp, proprietor of a hotel at Elk Rapids, Mich., was drowned along with three other persons when their rowboat capsized in Elk Lake.

Personal Mention

GEORGE H. VICKERS of the Hilo Emporium is in the city on a business mission.

W. M. BURNETT, a Hilo business man, is in the city. He was an arrival in the steamer Mauna Kea.

J. P. COOKE is reported a passenger in the Matson steamer Matsonia departing from San Francisco for Honolulu today.

DR. R. W. ANDERSON, who has been absent from the city for the past few weeks, is expected to return to the city in the steamer Matsonia.

L. SCHARLIN, a local moving picture man, is numbered with the travelers reported to have booked for the islands in the steamer Matsonia.

E. D. TENNEY and MRS. TENNEY, who have been spending some time on the mainland, will return to the islands in the Matsonia, due at Honolulu on next Tuesday morning.

WILLIAM P. M'DOUGALL, deputy tax collector on Hawaii, was numbered with the passengers returning to the Big Island in the Kilauea. He has been attending the civic convention at Wailuku.

EUGENE N. DEYO of the Hilo Board of Trade, who has been attending the sessions of the civic convention on Maui, returned to the Big Island today as a passenger in the steamer Kilauea.

HARRY PRATT JUDSON, president of the University of Chicago, will be a through passenger on the Pacific Mail liner Mongolia scheduled to arrive in Honolulu tomorrow morning. President Judson, who is completing a tour of the Orient, has been asked by the local University Club to be its guest at a smoker tomorrow evening. He is a cousin of Dr. J. S. B. Pratt and R. J. Pratt of Honolulu.

DR. WADMAN IS GLAD SUNDAY ISSUE RAISED

Rev. John W. Wadman, superintendent of the Anti-Saloon league, is to appear in police court tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock, charged with violation of the "Sunday-closing" law. With the hearing of his case it is expected that the test of the territorial statute will be launched, and a decision later reached as to whether the showing of moving pictures in connection with an educational program constitutes a breach of the law. This afternoon the executive committee of the Anti-Saloon league will meet to discuss the situation and it is expected that Dr. Wadman will be

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Pikoi and Young streets	3 bedrooms	\$5.00
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1052 14th Ave., Kaimuki	2 bedrooms	\$5.00

UNFURNISHED HOUSES:

Wilhelmina Rise	2 bedrooms	\$30.00
1563 Wilder Ave.	3 bedrooms	\$40.00
1139 9th Ave., Kaimuki	4 bedrooms	\$5.00
McKinley Ave. and Lanikuli Drive	3 bedrooms	\$45.00
Cottage Grove, King street	3 bedrooms	\$30.00

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770 Kinau street	2 bedrooms	\$32.50
1818 Beretania street	2 bedrooms	\$25.00
2615 Lanikuli drive	3 bedrooms	\$40.00
1339 Wilder avenue	3 bedrooms	\$40.00
1128 Wilder avenue	3 bedrooms	\$35.00
1231 Matlock avenue	2 bedrooms	\$22.50
1333 Matlock avenue	3 bedrooms	\$27.50
1328 Kinau street	3 bedrooms	\$35.00
1046 Young street	2 bedrooms	\$25.00
1761 Kalakaua avenue	4 bedrooms	\$25.00
Lewis lane, off Kalauea ave.	2 bedrooms	\$12.00
Cottage in rear of 2051 Lanikuli drive	2 bedrooms	\$27.50
1126 King street	5 bedrooms	\$50.00
Cor. Lanikuli drive and McKinley ave., Manoa	3 bedrooms	\$45.00
Lanikuli drive, nr. Oahu avenue	3 bedrooms	\$45.00
Manoa	2 bedrooms	\$41.00
1325 5th ave., Kaimuki	2 bedrooms	\$20.00
Cor. Koko Head and Paioa ave., Kaimuki	4 bedrooms	\$45.00

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